

LODDON INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL
KITTENS LANE
LODDON
NORFOLK
NR14 6JX
Tel: 01508 520118



LODDON JUNIOR SCHOOL
KITTENS LANE
LODDON
NORFOLK
NR14 6JX
Tel: 01508 520392

Headteacher: Mr R Burbage
www.loddonprimaryfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you are all staying safe and well.

Following the Government's announcement on 10 May of plans to begin to reopen schools from 1 June, I have been meeting with Senior Leaders, staff and Governors to come up with a plan. My priority is ensuring that everyone is as safe as possible in returning to school, and the school environment is adjusted to reduce the risk of infections to staff, children and you. In order for everything to be put in place, the phased return will not begin until Monday 8 June.

Following the announcement on Sunday, which was also news to me, additional information has gradually come out this week as to how we should return pupils to school safely. We will clean contact points throughout the day, wear PPE equipment for First Aid, and set out classrooms for social distancing to try to avoid contact with children and between children. I can't honestly say that there will be no contact between pupils, but we will endeavour to re-educate them so as to keep their distance. This does, however, also break my heart. I came into education over 20 years ago, loving the buzz in schools, the interactions between pupils and with pupils. Schools aren't just for learning to read and write, for me they are so much more; developing that love of learning through teamwork, kindness and consideration, and respecting and caring for each other. I, and we as a school, are going to have to adapt to a new way of being in school; but still holding true to what we believe in.

My proposal is, I believe, in the best interests of the pupils, staff and community. Our classrooms will allow for 6-9 pupils (depending on the classroom) to be spread out with roughly 2m spacing. I would like to see all the pupils have some time in school before the summer holidays, so we will be inviting all children back, rather than the proposed Yr R, Yr 1 and Yr 6. With this in mind, we will split every class into 4 groups (or 'bubbles' as the Government call them). Each group will come in one day a week (which the staff will organise during the week beginning 1 June and contact you about). We will have groups in Monday to Thursday, with Friday being used to deep clean the school ready for the next week. This will mean that every child will have the opportunity to come into school 6 times before the Summer Holidays. We will stagger the start to the day, and the end of the day; and begin with shorter days to get pupils back into the swing of school again. Our curriculum will be focussed on friendships and building a love of learning in a different environment. Life will be different in school, and the expectations different to protect everyone. If a child is misbehaving we will be phoning for you to collect them. My priority will be the safety of pupils and staff in school through social distancing, and if a child is not following these new rules then you will be asked to collect them.

Key worker (unchanged since 5 May) and vulnerable children will still be in school, and work will be set by staff for those pupils at home, although this will be slightly different as they will be teaching all day.

I am still planning all the details (this is not something I have ever had to organise!) but wanted to let you know what the plan was starting to look like. Obviously this is all subject to Government directives. I will send you more details next week. I have already had some parents saying that they do not want their child returning to school before September, which is absolutely fine and I respect those decisions that parents are making. There will be no penalties for not returning to school. Any questions please email me.

Sorry for the long post, and well done for getting to the end! Take care and look after yourselves.

Mr R Burbage
Headteacher